REMARKS

Claims 34-50 are pending in the application. Claims 34-50 stand rejected as allegedly being unpatentable over various combinations of U.S. Patent No. 4,371,932 to Dinwiddie, Jr. et al. ("Dinwiddie,") U.S. Patent No. 6,680,908 to Gibson et al. ("Gibson"), and U.S. Patent No. 5,784,699 to McMahon et al. ("McMahon").

The rejections are respectfully traversed and their withdrawal is requested. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Claim 34

Claim 34 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Dinwiddie in view of Gibson. However, claim 34 is patentable over the combination of Dinwiddie and Gibson because (a) Gibson does not teach a register with a "a storage capacity of about 4 kilobytes or greater" and (b) there is no motivation to modify Dinwiddie to increase the storage capacity of elements 25, 27, or 30 to be about 4 kilobytes or greater.

Gibson is directed to a network switch that includes a plurality of receive ports for receiving addressed data packets and a plurality of transmit ports for forwarding the addressed data packets and structure responsive to data in said packets

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for directing received packets to the transmit ports.   (See the Abstract of Gibson).

First, Gibson neither teaches nor suggests that register 30 has a storage capacity of about 4 kilobytes or greater.   The cited portion of Gibson teaches that "the register 30 is programmed with a number representing 60 kilobytes."   (Please see column 6, lines 14-15).   Note that this portion does not teach that the register has a "storage capacity" of 60 kilobytes, but rather that it is programmed with <u>a number representing</u> 60 kilobytes.

As noted in a previous response, claim 34 was amended to obviate any interpretation which would read the multi-ported memory as elements, such as registers, providing minimal storage.   Appendix A, included herewith, is a definition of a register from the Webopedia Computer Dictionary, found at www.webopedia.com.   The entry gives an exemplary register size of 32 <u>bits</u>.   The teachings of Gibson outlined above reinforce this definition: register 30 stores a number representing an amount of data, rather than a large amount of data.

In Gibson, the size of the <u>buffer 7</u> is clearly larger than 40 megabytes (an example of 100 megabytes is used), and the number stored in register 30 is related to the size of the buffer and the percentage of the buffer available.   Although increasing the size of a buffer may provide certain advantages,

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increasing the size of elements 25, 27, and 30 of Dinwiddie does not provide the same benefits. Thus, there is no teaching or suggestion to modify Dinwiddie with the teachings of Gibson.

Claims 35-44

Claims 35-44 depend from claim 34, and are therefore patentable for at least the same reasons stated above with respect to claim 34.

Claims 45-50

Claim 45 includes features similar to those discussed above with respect to claim 34, and is patentable for at least the same reasons as stated above. Claims 46-50 depend from claim 45 and are therefore patentable for at least the same reasons.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the remarks herein, claims 34-50 are in condition for allowance, and a notice to that effect is respectfully solicited. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this response, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (858) 678-5070.

No fees are believed do. Please apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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